

REMARKS

Information Disclosure Statement

The applicant submits herewith an information disclosure statement and fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p) disclosing reference EP 0911738 A2. The applicant respectfully requests the examiner consider the IDS and provide an initialed copy of form PTO-1449 in the next office action.

Claim Rejections

The examiner rejected claims 17, 29, 30 and 32 under 35 USC §102(e) as anticipated by Stokes (6,473,861). The examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 7-14, 18, 20, 23-27, and 31 under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Stokes in view of Lee et al (6,823,398). The examiner rejected claims 3, 6, 19, and 22 under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Stokes in view of Lee and further in view of Menezes, “Handbook of Applied Cryptography,” 1997, pp. 500-501. The examiner rejected claims 5 and 21 under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Stokes in view of Lee and further in view of Matyas et al (4,757,434). The applicant has amended the claims and respectfully disagrees with certain of the rejections.

Regarding claim 13 (which has been incorporated into claim 1), the examiner failed to identify where the relied upon prior art discloses or suggest to encrypt embedded servo sectors, or to authenticate a host request by decrypting the embedded servo sectors to allow access to the disk. Similarly, the examiner failed to identify where the relied upon prior art discloses or suggests the limitations recited in claim 14. The rejections should be withdrawn.

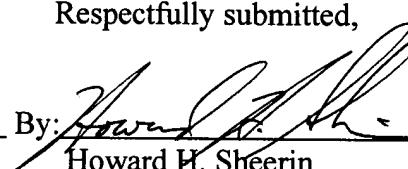
The rejections of the remaining claims should be withdrawn for the reasons set forth above.

CONCLUSION

The above amendments to the claims do not add new matter or raise new issues; the applicant respectfully requests the amendments be entered. In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the rejections should be withdrawn. In particular, the relied upon prior art does not disclose or suggest to authenticate a host request by decrypting embedded servo sectors. The examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned over the telephone in order to resolve any remaining issues that may prevent the immediate allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4/12/05 By:

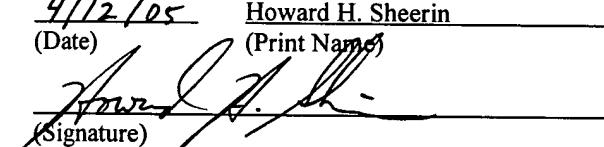

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

4/12/05
(Date)

Howard H. Sheerin
(Print Name)


(Signature)